Monthly Press Release

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Federal Housing Finance Board Announces Mortgage Index Rate

Washington, D.C. -- The Federal Housing Finance Board today announced that the final December value of the National Average Contract Mortgage Rate for the Purchase of Previously Occupied Homes by Combined Lenders was 6.04 percent. This is an increase of 0.01 percent from the November value. Many lenders use this rate in adjusting some adjustable-rate mortgages. This index was the only index rate that Federally chartered savings and loan associations could use as an adjustable-rate mortgage index in the early 1980s. For many years, this index was made available by the former Federal Home Loan Bank Board, and later by the Office of Thrift Supervision.

Interested parties can receive up-to-date information on this index value by calling (202) 408-2940. The January index value will be announced on February 27, 2003. The following table displays the history of this index for the past 13 months.

| Announce Date | Index Month | Index Rate |
|--------------------|----------------|------------|
| January 28, 2003 | December 2002 | 6.04 |
| December 26, 2002 | November 2002 | 6.03 |
| November 26, 2002 | October 2002 | 6.09 |
| October 25, 2002 | September 2002 | 6.23 |
| September 27, 2002 | August 2002 | 6.32 |
| August 28, 2002 | July 2002 | 6.48 |
| July 25, 2002 | June 2002 | 6.62 |
| June 26, 2002 | May 2002 | 6.74 |
| May 28, 2002 | April 2002 | 6.88 |
| April 26, 2002 | March 2002 | 6.77 |
| March 27, 2002 | February 2002 | 6.77 |
| February 27, 2002 | January 2002 | 6.81 |
| January 25, 2002 | December 2001 | 6.69 |